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SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS/BURMA: OPEN TO NEW STRATEGIES

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(SBU) The new Burma desk officer at the Dutch MFA, Annelies Faro, is open to new approaches on a strategy for Burma. Poloff delivered reftel points on August 5, and spoke with Faro on August 12. She took up the Burma portfolio in July and said she was reviewing U.S. programs on Burma, such as those through the National Endowment for Democracy, and various reports on Burma, including material by former U.S. Head of Mission Clapp. Faro noted that the EU presidency's visit to Burma had been postponed due to problems with visas and appointments; Faro plans to visit in the fall. The Dutch will remain firm on Burma sanctions, but Faro is preparing a new policy paper on Burma.